

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. **(Withdrawn)** A therapeutic agent for periodontal diseases which comprises a neurotrophic factor as an active ingredient.

2. **(Withdrawn)** The therapeutic agent according to Claim 1 which regenerates the periodontal tissue.

3. **(Withdrawn)** The therapeutic agent according to Claim 1 which regenerates the cementum.

4. **(Withdrawn)** The therapeutic agent according to Claim 1 which regenerates the periodontal ligament.

5. **(Withdrawn)** The therapeutic agent according to Claim 1 which regenerates the alveolar bone.

6. **(Withdrawn)** The therapeutic agent according to Claim 1 which prevents the apical invasion of gingival epithelium along the dental root surface.

7. **(Withdrawn)** The therapeutic agent according to Claim 1 which regenerates the dental pulp.

8. **(Withdrawn)** The therapeutic agent according to Claim 1 which enhances the production of repaired dentin in the pulp cavity.

9. **(Withdrawn)** The therapeutic agent according to Claim 1, wherein the neurotrophic factor is a brain-derived neurotrophic factor, a nerve growth factor, neurotrophin-3, or neurotrophin-4/5.

10. **(Currently Amended)** A periodontal transplant which comprises:
a therapeutically effective amount, per tooth or defect of furcation, of a neurotrophic factor for regenerating periodontal tissues; and
~~an absorbent material~~ a biodegradable protein material,
wherein the therapeutically effective amount reduces or inhibits the apical invasion of gingival epithelium along the dental root surface and the neurotrophic factor is selected from the group consisting of [[a]] brain-derived neurotrophic factor, [[a]] nerve growth factor, neurotrophin-3, and neurotrophin-4/5.

11. **(Previously Presented)** The periodontal transplant according to Claim 10, wherein the therapeutically effective amount regenerates the cementum.

12. **(Previously Presented)** The periodontal transplant according to Claim 10, wherein the therapeutically effective amount regenerates the periodontal ligament.

13. **(Previously Presented)** The periodontal transplant according to Claim 10, wherein the therapeutically effective amount regenerates the alveolar bone.

14. **Canceled.**

15. **(Previously Presented)** The periodontal transplant according to Claim 10, wherein the therapeutically effective amount regenerates the dental pulp.

16. **(Previously Presented)** The periodontal transplant according to Claim 10, wherein the therapeutically effective amount enhances the production of repaired dentin in the pulp cavity.

17. **Canceled**

18. **(Withdrawn)** A method for regenerating the periodontal tissue which comprises using a neurotrophic factor.

19. **(Withdrawn)** The regenerating method according to Claim 18 which regenerates the cementum.

20. **(Withdrawn)** The regenerating method according to Claim 18 which regenerates the periodontal ligament.

21. **(Withdrawn)** The regenerating method according to Claim 18 which regenerates the alveolar bone.

22. **(Withdrawn)** The regenerating method according to Claim 18 which prevents the apical invasion of gingival epithelium along the dental root surface.

23. **(Withdrawn)** The regenerating method according to Claim 18 which regenerates the dental pulp.

24. **(Withdrawn)** The regenerating method according to Claim 18 which enhances the production of repaired dentin in the pulp cavity.

25. **(Withdrawn)** The regenerating method according to Claim 18 wherein the neurotrophic factor is a brain-derived neurotrophic factor, a nerve growth factor, neurotrophin-3, or neurotrophin-4/5.

26. **(Withdrawn)** A repaired dentin morphogenesis enhancer which comprises a neurotrophic factor as an active ingredient.

27. **(Withdrawn)** The repaired dentin morphogenesis enhancer according to Claim 26

wherein the neurotrophic factor is a brain-derived neurotrophic factor, a nerve growth factor, neurotrophin-3, or neurotrophin-4/5.

28. **(Withdrawn)** A therapeutic method for pulpal disease which comprises administering a therapeutically effective amount of a neurotrophic factor to a subject who is suffering or prone to suffer from the disease in order to enhance the morphogenesis of repaired dentin.

29. **(Withdrawn)** The method according to Claim 28 wherein the neurotrophic factor is a brain-derived neurotrophic factor, a nerve growth factor, neurotrophin-3, or neurotrophin-4/5.

30. **(Previously Presented)** The periodontal transplant according to Claim 10, wherein the therapeutically effective amount is in the range of 1×10^{-12} g to 1×10^{-3} g per tooth or defect of furcation.